

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/26759

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 6/00

US CL : 600/476, 477

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 600/476

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6,272,376 B1 (MARCU et al) 07 August 2001 (07.08.2001), column 1, lines 9-29,	1-5, 7-14, 16-20, 25-
—	column 2, lines 15-44, column 4, lines 28-67, column 5, lines 1-8, column 7, lines 12-56,	31, 34-41, 44
Y	column 8, lines 21-54, column 11, lines 33-67, column 12, lines 1-19 and 54-67.	6, 15, 21-24, 32, 33, 42, 43
Y	US 5,762,609 A (BENARON et al) 09 June 1998 (09.06.1998), column 4, lines 13-25,	6, 15
Y	column 5, lines 20-27, column 9, lines 13-20.	21-23, 32, 42
Y	US 5,464,013 A (LEMELSON) 07 November 1995 (07.11.1995), column 23, lines 15-50,	24, 33, 43
Y	column 26, lines 61-67 and column 27, lines 1-35.	
Y	US 5,998,597 A (FISHER et al) 07 December 1999 (07.12.1999), column 25, lines 22-63.	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

13 October 2005 (13.10.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

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